

**AGENDA
MAINE STATE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
MEETING**

July 20, 2018

Gambling Control Board Conference Room

Department of Public Safety

45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Starting Time 9:00 a.m.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order and Introductions:** Michael Timmons, Chair
2. **Review and Approval of Minutes**
Review and Approval of Decision and Orders
3. **Adjudicatory Hearings:**
 - a. **RE: Tracey Whittemore, Complaint Numbers 2017 MSHRC 33.** Ms. Whittemore is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Ms. Whittemore is the trainer of record for the horse “Daniel Semalu”. A blood sample obtained from Daniel Semalu following the Second Race at Union Fair on August 26, 2017 disclosed the presence of methylprednisolone at 689 picograms per milliliter of blood serum. The regulatory threshold for methylprednisolone is 100 picograms per milliliter of blood serum.
 - b. **Tracey Whittemore, Complaint Numbers 2017 MSHRC 37.** Ms. Whittemore is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Ms. Whittemore is the trainer of record for the horse “Daniel Semalu”. A blood sample obtained from Daniel Semalu following the Eighth Race at Bangor Raceway on September 8, 2017 disclosed the presence of methylprednisolone at 141 picograms per milliliter of blood serum. The regulatory threshold for methylprednisolone is 100 picograms per milliliter of blood serum.
4. **Commission Review of a Joint Proposal by the Maine Harness Horsemen’s Association and Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association to Transfer Initial Adjudication of Prohibited Substance Cases to the Track Judges.** Both Maine horsemen associations have jointly submitted a proposal to transfer initial adjudication of prohibited substance adjudications to the track judges similar to many other jurisdictions. The associations contend that the judges can schedule hearings quickly and that resolution of most cases will occur with less delay. The associations also contend that such an approach will free up resources for the Department staff, allowing the Department to focus more resources on other priorities.
5. **Commission Review of a Rulemaking Proposal by the Maine Harness Horsemen’s Association to Establish Standards for the Maintenance of Tracks and the Distribution of Purse Funds.** The Maine Harness Horsemen’s Association is advocating for the establishment of standards in Chapter 5 for the proper maintenance of tracks. In addition, the Association supports adding language to Chapter 5 requiring any commercial track that does not have a contract with a statewide association of horsemen to receive approval for its purse payment plan annually.

6. **Commission Discussion about Supporting the Harness Racing at the Pembroke and Cornish Fairs.** Pembroke and Cornish are the last two agricultural fairs that host non-pari-mutuel harness racing. The non-pari-mutuel fairs benefit harness racing in Maine by serving as training grounds for aspiring participants, and by giving the sport more exposure. The Maine Harness Horsemen's Association is advocating that the Commission support the last two non-pari-mutuel fairs so that the benefits will also continue.
7. **Other Business:**
8. **Schedule of Future Meetings:**
August 22, 2018
September 13, 2018
9. **Adjourn**